

Bloomfield Record.

Our Visitor.

He came in with an interrogation point in one eye, and a stick in one hand. One eye was covered with a handkerchief and one arm in a sling. His bearing was that of a man with a settled purpose in view.

"I want to see," said he, "the man that puts things into this paper."

We intimated that several of us earned a frugal livelihood in that way.

"Well, I want to see the man which cribbs things out of the other papers. The fellow who writes mostly with shears, you understand."

We explained to him that there were seasons when the most gifted among us, driven to frenzy by the scarcity of ideas and events, and by the clamorous demands of an insatiable public, in moments of emotional insanity, plunged the glittering shears into our exchanges. He went off calmly, but in a voice tremulous with suppressed feeling and indistinct through the recent loss of half a dozen or so of his front teeth:

"Just so, I presume so. I don't know much about this business, but I want to see a man, the man that printed that little piece about pouring cold water down a drunken man's spine of his back, and making him instantly sober. If you please, I want to see that man. I want to talk with him."

Then he leaned his stick against our desk and spit on his serviceable hand, and resumed his hold on the stick as though he was weighing it. After studying the stick a minute, he added in a somewhat louder tone:

"Mister, I came here to see that 'ere man. I want to see him bad."

We told him that particular man was not in.

"Just so, I presume so. They told me before I come that the man I wanted to see wouldn't be anywhere. I'll wait for him. I live up north, and I've walked seven miles to converse with that man. I guess I'll sit down and wait."

He sat down by the door and reflectively pounded the floor with his stick, but his feelings would not allow him to keep still.

"I suppose none of you didn't ever pour

much cold water down any drunken man's

back to make him instantly sober, per-

haps."

None of us in the office had ever tried the experiment.

"Just so. I thought just as like as not you had not. Well, mister, I have. I tried it yesterday, and I have come seven miles on foot to see the man that printed that piece. It wasn't much of a piece, I don't think; but I want to see the man that printed it, just a few minutes. You see, John Smith, he lives next door to my house, when I'm at home, and he gets how-came-you-so every little period. Now, when he's sober he's all right, if you keep out of his way; but when he's drunk he goes home and breaks dishes and tips over the stove and throws hardware around, and makes it inconvenient for his wife, and sometimes he gets his man and goes out calling on his neighbors, and it ain't pleasant."

Not that I want to say anything about Smith; but me and my wife don't think he ought to do so. He came home drunk lately, and broke all the kitchen windows out of his house, and followed his wife round with a carving knife, talking about her liver, and after a while lay down by my fence and went to sleep. I had been reading that little piece; it wasn't much of a piece, and I thought if I could pour some water down his spine, on his back, and make him sober, it would be more comfortable for his wife, and a square thing all around. So I poured a bucket of spring water down John Smith's spine of his back."

"Well," said we, as our visitor paused, "did it make him sober?"

Our visitor took a firmer hold of his stick and replied with increased emotion:

"Just so. I suppose it made him as sober as a judge in less time than you can say Jack Robinson, but, mister, it made him mad. It made him the maddest man I ever saw, and Mister John Smith is a bigger man than me and stouter. He is a good deal stouter. Bla—bless him, I never knew he was half so stout till yesterday, and he's handy with his fists, too. I should suppose he's the handiest man with his fists ever saw."

"Then he went for you, did he?" we asked, innocently.

"Just so. Exactly. I suppose he went for me about the best he knew, but I don't hold no grudge against John Smith. I suppose he ain't a good man to hold a grudge against, only I want to see the man that printed that piece. I wan't to see him bad. I feel as tho' it would soothe me to see that man. I want to show him how a drunken man acts when you pour water down the spine of his back. That's what I come for."

Our visitor, who had poured water down the spine of a drunken man's back, remained until 6 o'clock in the evening, and then went up street to find the man. The man he is looking for started for Alaska last evening for a summer vacation, and will not be back before September, 1878.—*Utica Herald.*

Various epithets have been bestowed upon the Grangers in the West. The latest idea is to call them Potato-bugs, a title which they do not disown but accept as applicable, inasmuch as they are numerous, multiply rapidly, are "of the right stripe," and propose to clean out the entire patch, and then lay by, to come out bright, new and numerous the next season ready to renew the campaign.

PROSPECTUS

THE BLOOMFIELD RECORD FOR 1874.

An Independent Weekly Newspaper,
Devoted to the interests of Bloomfield and vicinity.
The Second Volume will begin with the issue of Jan.
15th, 1874.

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\$1.50 a Year, invariably in Advance. Subscriptions
may begin at any time, and names will be received as
hereinafter, at the following places, and at which sub-
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WM. D. CARTER, Treas.

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ON the 20th of July next this Institution will pay
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on all sums which shall have remained on deposit
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T. C. DODD, Treas.

June 1, 1873.

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It is within a few doors of the Morris & Essex rail-
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the rate of seven (7) per cent. per annum. It being an
"up town" institution, it is largely patronized by "up
town" people, as well as those from the townships near
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H. M. RHODES, President.
ALEX. GRANT, Treasurer.

Montclair Advertisements.

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